

Fall seat belt campaign

Mandatory seatbelt use marks 30th anniversary

This year marks the 30-year anniversary of mandatory seat belt use in Ontario, the first province in Canada to pass a seat belt law. The annual OPP seatbelt campaign runs from Saturday, September 23 through to Sunday October 8.

Focus of this year's campaign is the 30-year anniversary and proper restraint of all vehicle occupants, highlighting both rear and passenger seat occupants in addition to the driver. It will include a provincial "seat belt count" run by volunteers at count locations and a card campaign aimed at increasing public awareness of all occupant restraint safety.

The campaign will also continue to support child passenger safety, by highlighting the proper use of child restraints.

Traffic crashes remain a leading cause of death in Ontario. It is estimated they exact a social cost of \$9 billion every year.

Using seat belts is the single most effective way to reduce vehicle related injuries and fatalities. To understand the value of seat belt use, it's important to understand the dynamics of a crash. Every crash is actually comprised of three collisions.

The first is known as the car's collision, which causes the car to buckle and bend as it hits something and comes to an abrupt stop.

The second, the human collision, occurs as the car's occupants hit some part of the vehicle. At the moment of impact, unbelted occupants are still travelling at the vehicle's original speed. Just after the vehicle comes

to a stop, unbelted occupants will slam into some part of the vehicle's interior.

Another form of human collision is the "person-to-person impact." Many serious injuries are caused by unbelted occupants colliding with each other. Unbelted rear-seat passengers become high-speed projectiles striking people in the front seat.

Even after the occupant's body comes to a complete stop the internal organs are still moving forward and these organs hit other organs or the skeletal system. This internal third collision often causes serious or fatal injuries.

During a crash, properly fastened seat belts distribute the forces of rapid deceleration over larger and stronger parts of the person's body, such as the chest, hips and

shoulders. The safety belt stretches slightly to slow your body down and to increase its stopping distance.

The difference between the belted person's stopping distance and the unbelted person's stopping distance is significant. It's often the difference between life and death.

When occupying a seating position for which a seat belt is provided, all motor vehicle occupants are required to use the complete seat belt assembly, properly adjusted and securely fastened. Toddlers are required by law to be properly secured in appropriate child car seats when travelling in their parent or guardian's vehicle. When a child outgrows car seats the law requires the use of a booster seat.



ROCKING ROCKETS: Regular season first place winners, the Boys' Under 14 Rockwood Rockets soccer team, were also Cup Champions in the playoffs. Members of the team are: Jo Drexler, Sean Horricks, Curtis Howson, Jacob Jaroszewski, Mackenzie Lay, Kurtis Lillie, Vlad McEwan, Andrew Naylor, Andre Pollard, Jared Reinders, Kyle Rodd, Tim Rodgers, James Shultis, Alex Steinberg, Matt Stiehl, Ben Turner, Justin Vandergeer, Manager – Sherol Steinberg, Assistant Coach – Richard Turner, Coach – Richard Lay.

Boys' U-14 Rockets' splendid year

The 2006 season for the Boys' Under 14 soccer team was nothing short of spectacular. Playing 15 games and scoring a whopping 75 goals (and only having 12 scored against them) throughout the season against the likes of Acton, Grand Valley, Hillsburgh and Erin, the boys were able to come out undefeated giving them first place bragging

rights going into playoffs. During the regular season they also participated in a tournament in Alliston, a Team Builder camp, had three scrimmages and 15 practices, showing hard-work pays off.

Throughout the playoffs the boys kept their streak alive, going undefeated in four games, scoring 12 goals with only three against them

to become the Cup Champions against Grand Valley in the finals.

The Rockwood Rockets home field is in Eden Mills.

Police arrest man, 66, for robbing Campbellville bank

Halton Regional Police have arrested and charged a 66-year-old man with robbing the Bank of Nova Scotia in Campbellville during the afternoon of Monday, September 25. No weapon was seen when the man demanded money; he fled with an undisclosed amount of cash including bait money.

Uniformed police officers located the suspect in a vehicle at Sixth Line Nassagaweya near 20 Side Road. After effecting a traffic stop officers arrested the male and recovered all of the stolen cash.

Further investigation has led to additional charges relating to two similar robberies at the same bank branch in August of 2003 and November 2005.

Douglas Franklin Berthal, 66, of Crystal Beach, Ontario was held for a bail hearing in Milton Provincial Court on Tuesday. Berthal is charged with a

number of offences including two counts of robbery, one count of robbery with a firearm, three counts of disguise with intent, one count of theft over \$5,000, one count of Possession of Stolen Property over \$5,000 and two counts of possession under \$5,000.

Halton Police are asking anyone with information related to the robbery call them at 905-825-4777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



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